

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 13, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Capitol Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Republican Leader, House of Representatives, Capitol Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND LEADER BOEHNER: I am writing to tender my resignation from the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for the 111th Congress effective today, January 13, 2009. It has been an honor to serve with Chairman Filner and Ranking Member Buyer, as well as the other members of the Committee, to ensure the needs of our veterans remain a national priority.

I remain committed to making certain that our veterans receive the best quality of care, benefits, and services that the United States is able to provide. Locally, the Dayton VA Medical Center, and all Miami Valley and Ohio veterans will remain a top priority.

Since my election to Congress I have been proud to support all of our nation's veterans through increases in VA funding and supporting the Wounded Warrior Assistance Act, which is aimed at improving the transition between DoD and VA medical care. Additionally, I was able to support final passage of the GI Bill modernization, which expanded veterans education benefits and allows them to transfer their unused benefits to their immediate family members.

Locally, I have been able to advocate for the 500-bed Dayton VA Medical Center, which is one of the three original VA "soldiers' homes" created by President Lincoln after the Civil War. This facility is the second largest federal installation in my Congressional District, and is an important community asset. I worked to ensure the Community Living Center, which was slated for closure, remained open and also received additional money for a state-of-the-art renovation. I was also proud to help rural veterans in my community continue to have access to important screening services close to home.

I have recently been named the Ranking Republican on the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee. This leadership position requires a great deal of commitment and is a unique opportunity to continue my service to ensure our national security.

I appreciate the opportunity to have served on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee for the past four years. Because of the commitment of all members on this distinguished committee, we have made great strides in caring for our veterans, and I know that the trend will continue. Please have your staff contact Joseph Heaton (joseph.heaton@mail.house.gov) at 225-6465 if my office can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL R. TURNER,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.
There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 51

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the fol-

lowing standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION.—Ms. Zoe Lofgren of California, Mr. Capuano, Mr. Gonzalez, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Davis of Alabama.

(2) COMMITTEE ON RULES.—Mr. Perlmutter, Ms. Pingree of Maine, Mr. Polis of Colorado. SEC. 2. Paragraph (5) of House Resolution 24, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, agreed to January 7, 2009, is amended by striking "Mr. Bishop of Utah," and inserting "Mr. Bishop of New York,".

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO- VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2, CHILDREN'S HEALTH IN- SURANCE PROGRAM REAUTHOR- IZATION ACT OF 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-1) on the resolution (H. Res. 52) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2) to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PRO- VIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 384, TARP REFORM AND AC- COUNTABILITY ACT OF 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 111-2) on the resolution (H. Res. 53) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 384) to reform the Troubled Assets Relief Program of the Secretary of the Treasury and ensure accountability under such Program, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BOUCHER (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CHANDLER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. REYES, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CHANDLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE of Texas) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today, January 14 and 15.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, for 5 minutes, January 14 and 15.

Mr. HUNTER, for 5 minutes, January 14.

Mr. NEUGEBAUER, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

The Speaker announced her signature to an enrolled Joint Resolution of the Senate of the following title:

S.J. Res. 3. Ensuring that the compensation and other emolument attached to the office of Secretary of the Interior are those which were in effect on January 1, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 54 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, January 14, 2009, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

46. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Walnuts Grown in California; Section 610 Review [Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0010; FV08-984-610 Review] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

47. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Tomatoes Grown in Florida; Section 610 Review [Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0009; FV08-966-610 Review] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

48. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule — Pears Grown in Oregon and Washington; Section 610 Review [Docket No. AMS-FV-08-0008; FV08-927-610 Review] received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

49. A letter from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Revision of Hearing Procedures [Docket No. FR-5084-F-02] (RIN: 2501-AD24) received January 7, 2009, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

50. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final